

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) Challenge Fund Main & Extra: Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the "Project Reporting Information Note":
(<https://iwt.challengefund.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>)

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 20 pages** in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 16th May 2025

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IWT Challenge Fund Project Information

Scheme (Main or Extra)	Main
Project reference	IWT141
Project title	Enhancing capability to tackle Trans-Himalayan Illegal Wildlife Trade
Country/ies	Nepal, India, China
Lead Organisation	Environmental Investigation Agency, UK (EIA)
Project partner(s)	Greenhood Nepal, Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI)
IWTCTF grant value	£599,945
Start/end dates of project	July 1 st , 2024 – March 31 st , 2027
Reporting period (e.g. April 2024-Mar 2025) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Debbie Banks
Project website/blog/social media	EIA does not have separate websites or social media accounts for individual projects as yet but will update EIA's main website and social media accounts with news of this project. Addresses are as follows: https://eia-international.org/ https://www.facebook.com/environmentalinvestigationagency https://www.linkedin.com/company/environmental-investigation-agency/ https://www.instagram.com/eia_news/?hl=en
Report author(s) and date	EIA, Greenhood Nepal, WPSI, April 2025

1. Project summary

This project is addressing IWT in Tigers, Leopards, Asiatic black bears, and Chinese and Indian pangolins along the Trans-Himalayan trade route, with specific focus in India and Nepal. Enhanced capability to tackle IWT is being embedded in India and Nepal through deepening understanding of trade dynamics in focal species and capacity sustainably built within governments and CSOs. Furthermore, direct support to national law enforcement agencies is

being facilitated and enhanced regional enforcement will be encouraged, underpinned by strengthened policy implementation.

Trans-boundary routes between India, Nepal and China are ancient trade routes along which wildlife trafficking has taken place for decades. Numerous illegal wildlife products are smuggled along these routes, with the flow primarily from South Asia to China, the biggest market. Relevant maps are included as supporting documents for Output 1.1. and reflect the project location.

Poaching for illegal trade is the primary threat to tigers and Indian and Chinese pangolins globally and a key threat to leopards and Asiatic black bears within South-Asia. India and Nepal are key range states for the focal species, and their parts and derivatives are consistently observed in illegal trade across the region.

Poaching for trade has resulted in past extirpation of tigers from reserves in India. Recent declines in tigers have been recorded in Southern and East-Central India and increased poaching observed by project partners in Northern India. Leopards are the most trafficked big cat. Excluding Africa, India's leopard seizures account for 67% of the global leopard seizures (2000 to 2022) and they are one of the most seized species in Nepal, indicating the vulnerability of leopard populations to IWT. Pangolins are the world's most trafficked mammal with poaching for trade being their primary threat. Chinese pangolin population declines have resulted in trafficking shifting to Indian pangolins. Recent research indicates that Asiatic black bears are also being targeted for international trade in their body parts and there is convergence in the trade chain of this project's focal species and other wildlife for medicinal and luxury use. Excluding pangolins, poaching impacts are compounded by human-wildlife conflict, with opportunistic introduction into IWT.

Geographic proximity, porous borders, and cultural links facilitate Trans-Himalayan IWT, with persistent trafficking routes and trade hubs identified. Prior to the project, EIA mapped wildlife crime networks run by Chinese nationals in Nepal and documented IWT products for sale on social media platforms used by Chinese nationals apparently based in Nepal. All three project partners cooperate with national law enforcement agencies across the region and are aware of the level of commitment which can sometimes be undermined by limited capacity, which this project is, in part, addressing. Greenhood Nepal and WPSI are routinely engaged by national agencies on wildlife crime matters, while as an international organisation EIA often provides Interpol with information to support trans-boundary initiatives.

Poverty is also a facilitative factor influencing individual participation on lower levels of trade chains, though it is not always the main motivating factor. Trans-Himalayan IWT contributes to poverty by decreasing livelihood opportunities from sustainable uses such as ecotourism, including reduction in proceeds of protected area entrance fee payments; depriving communities adjacent to wildlife-rich habitats of opportunities to benefit from direct employment in ecotourism initiatives or micro-economy schemes linked to ecotourism. Furthermore, poaching for trade denudes the ecosystems in which these species play key functions, and on which communities depend.

Prior to the project, partners analysed recent field research findings, crime analysis, law enforcement engagement by partners, and past EIA research into regional IWT. This process identified persistent and growing threats, including the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), enforcement gaps, and CSO opportunities to build capability to tackle IWT on which this project was modelled.

For project maps showing project location and trade routes and locations mapped to date, please see.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

This is a fully collaborative project, based on strong relationships and partnerships that pre-date the project, and in the case of WPSI and EIA by over two decades. As described in our project proposal and in Question 1 above, all partners were equally involved in designing the project and contributed contextual knowledge, analyses and expertise that jointly shaped project development.

The OSJA clearance process meant that the grant paperwork for this project was issued in mid-September 2024. Up until this point, activity was primarily desk-based involving the collection of information to support Outputs 1, 2 and 4. Co-financing enabled stakeholder engagement to support Output 4 and the introduction of the project to stakeholders. Once the paperwork was received by EIA, we were able to commence getting project activities moving in earnest, including drafting and signing of project MoUs between EIA and each partner and other key start up processes. Due to the long delay in receiving confirmation of funds awarded and the subsequent need to get full project activities moving fast, EIA initially held an online kick off meeting with Greenhood Nepal and WPSI in mid-October and we subsequently held an in-person partner meeting over three days in Kathmandu with Greenhood and WPSI at the end of November 2024. See supporting docs 2 – 4 that includes the meeting agenda.

EIA also met with stakeholders beyond the three core project partners in Kathmandu in July 2024, and in Kathmandu and Delhi following the partner meeting at the end of November and early December 2024. Greenhood Nepal joined EIA for most of the Nepal meetings. Stakeholder meetings entailed:

- British Embassy, Nepal (to discuss the components of the project and OSJA / safeguarding requirements)
- South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) Secretariat (met with bilaterally and during a workshop) Indian and Nepalese Customs and Forest officials, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Zoological Society of London (ZSL), National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) during regional enforcement workshop. Several emerging challenges were identified by Forest and Customs officers during discussions, for which they are seeking assistance. We discussed how this project, and others underway by project partners can contribute to addressing some of those challenges. (see Section 3.1 Output 4). EIA and Greenhood also met with SAWEN to discuss what they saw as information gaps in relation to trans-Himalayan trade dynamics, which this project will seek to fill through the regional trade assessment.
- US Embassy, Nepal (to introduce the projects and determine if any overlapping interests and projects)
- EIA also accompanied Greenhood Nepal to meet with Nepal Ministry of Forestry personnel in July 2024
- National Trust for Nature Conservation, Nepal (to identify areas for future cooperation)
- National Tiger Conservation Authority India / head of Indian delegation to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), India (to discuss common goals for outcomes at CITES and how findings from the project may assist deliberations in future)
- International Big Cat Alliance, India (to discuss, *inter alia*, common goals for outcomes at CITES and how findings from the project may assist deliberations in future)
- [Go Insight](#), partners of EIA on our [CatByte](#) project, presented CatByte to Greenhood and WPSI as a potential shared tool for visualising big cat trade and analysis of convergence with trade in other species and crime types.

EIA also met with Interpol (virtually) to discuss what they saw as information gaps in relation to trans-Himalayan trade dynamics, which this project will seek to fill through the regional trade assessment.

See supporting docs 5 & 6 – photos from stakeholder meetings.

WPSI actively engaged with a variety of key Indian stakeholders during year 1 of the project to enhance the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement. This collaboration included regional wildlife enforcement authorities such as the Special Task Forces of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh Police, as well as the State Forest Departments of Assam, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh. WPSI facilitated the registration of wildlife crime cases by providing verified intelligence and crucial information with these stakeholders. Other stakeholders, including the Wildlife Crime

Control Bureau, and the Central Bureau of Investigation, also played pivotal roles in facilitating intelligence exchange and enforcement action in India. The involvement of border security forces such as the Regional Investigation Team of Nepal Police at the Indo-Nepal border strengthened cross-border coordination.

In the first year, Greenhood engaged with 14 different Nepalese government stakeholders. Greenhood secured research permission from the Department of Forests and Soil Conservation to collect nature crime data from all the 13 districts of Bagmati Province which are Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur, Kavrepalanchok, Sindhupalchok, Dolakha, Sindhuli, Ramechhap, Chitwan, Dhading, Nuwakot, Makwanpur and Rasuwa. These divisional forest offices were visited to build relationships and collect the data required for creating a database.

A Project Board has been established including two members from each partner and quarterly project meetings have taken place, with the latest on April 4th. In addition to quarterly full-team project meetings, numerous workstream specific meetings are regularly scheduled.

3. Project progress

The OSJA clearance process meant that the grant paperwork for this project was issued on the September 10th, 2024. Per the invitation in NIRAS/ DEFRA letter of 27th June, advising of the OSJA process, we submitted a change request, which was approved (CR24-048), to amend the start date of the project from 01 May 2024 to 01 July 2024 and allow retrospective allocation of income upon final approval. In light of the uncertainty over the funding until September however, no major expenditure (e.g. new recruitment, significant travel costs, workshops), could take place. Activity up until this point was largely limited to desk-based tasks, low-cost travel and international travel supported by co-financing. Therefore, the bulk of project progress in year 1 has been delivered in the period since September 2024.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: A comprehensive ‘Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment’ produced, with recommendations for enforcement action in trade and cross-border hotspots and in relation to finance and transport sectors and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies and policymakers.

Desk-based data collation to establish a baseline regional trade assessment has commenced (activity 1.1). This includes extraction of information from pre-project research reports by EIA on regional smuggling routes, methods, commodities, drivers, prices, business profiles and other relevant information to create a “who, what, where, how, why and when” assessment framework. Over 750 crime reports and court case records from China have been accessed so far, and this research and analysis is ongoing. Relevant information from these records is being used to inform the baseline framework, which along with insights from the independent wildlife crime databases held by partners will give a regional perspective. These databases are continuously updated throughout the project term by EIA and WPSI (activity 1.3) and significant steps have been made towards developing Greenhood’s database as described under Output 3 below. Thirteen trade routes have been identified so far and new information generated by partner field research activities under the project, and through ongoing open-source research, will further shape the assessment as planned. Greenhood Nepal has secured permissions from relevant government agencies for the planned field work.

Desk-based research on previously identified transnational criminal networks operating between China and Nepal, and the overlap with legal wildlife trade businesses (activity 1.4) has commenced and will continue during year 2 to inform field research and the regional trade assessment.

Activities 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7 are planned to take place in project years 2 and 3.

Output 2: Intelligence to support IWT law enforcement operations gathered, analysed and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies.

Activities 2.2 and 2.3 are planned for years 2 and 3 of the project.

Output 3: CSO (Nepal) and government (India and Nepal) capacity to counter wildlife trafficking enhanced.

Under activity 3.1, EIA and Greenhood have been working together, through regular communication, towards the development of the IWT database. An initial in-person meeting was held in November 2024 between EIA and Greenhood to determine what the database requirements were and to understand what parameters and incident types would need to be recorded; these discussions better informed the creation of data fields and data structure design, which was mapped out on an excel template. Since November 2024, EIA and Greenhood have communicated regularly to ensure that the technical development of the different database components has been on track. As of April 2025, SharePoint lists have been created in accordance with the pre-mapped design; these lists will be used to store the data and have been tested through manually entering data relating to wildlife crimes that Greenhood have received through their data requests so far.

Since April 2025, the data entry form which is being built through PowerApp has also been in development. This data entry form which will be used to populate the aforementioned SharePoint lists is nearing completion. So far, we have tested the different functionalities in PowerApp to increase the efficiency of the data entry process, including experimenting with gallery views and dropdown menus. We will formally start data entry phase as soon as the PowerApp development is completed. We are also drafting a data entry guideline document to ensure the data entry process is standardised. The first draft of this guideline document will be ready by the end of April. For supporting evidence see folder 2.

Under activity 3.2, Greenhood have collected data from all the 13 targeted districts of Bagmati Province in the allocated time. Now, we will soon start compiling the data in the template prepared with the support of EIA. For supporting evidence see document 7. Activity 3.3 is planned for years 2 and 3 of the project.

In March 2025, WPSI conducted two enforcement training workshops in North India (activity 3.4). The workshops were for front line staff in the State of Uttar Pradesh (covering two critical Tiger Reserves that are known poaching/trade hotspots). A total of 107 Forest Department staff attended these trainings with ~15% women attendance in one workshop and ~9% in the other. Evidence provided to support this is participant records, training materials and training feedback – for supporting evidence see folder 3.

The trainings were successful and much appreciated on the ground, and we also had encouraging participation from female frontline officials. In fact, one of the trainers has previously conducted trainings for SAWEN.

An Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) training face-to-face needs assessment was conducted at the partner meeting in November 2024. The assessment identified key areas to focus the OSINT training on and how to tailor the course to Greenhood Nepal's specific work needs. Under activity 3.5, the training was delivered to three Greenhood staff from March 10 – 14th, 2025, covering a range of topics as listed below. The course incorporated practical exercises, allowing the participants to practice using the new skills and tools. The training facilitated open discussions on how OSINT will be effectively used at Greenhood Nepal, serving as a valuable opportunity for both partners to learn more about each other's work and capabilities. Evidence provided to support this is photos from the training – please see supporting documents 8 and 9.

OSINT Training Topics: Introduction to OSINT; operational security; activity recording; social media investigations; telephone number research; people searching; business searching; false persona creation; tradecraft; artificial intelligence; image and video searching; information grading.

Participants completed the training, having already implemented key operational security measures to enhance their online security and added tools to their internet browsers. EIA and

Greenhood Nepal have established an ongoing monthly call to identify opportunities to apply their skills in upcoming work, including the creation of collection plans and exploring different OSINT methods. The calls will also be used to plan for the next training.

Activities 3.6 and 3.7 are planned for years 2 and 3 of the project.

Output 4: Regional enforcement cooperation encouraged between India, Nepal, and China including through implementation of CITES Resolutions and associated Decisions.

EIA participated in a SAWEN workshop for Forest and Customs Officers at the end of July 2024, during which the following themes for cooperation and capacity building were identified by officials: online trade research, information management, analysis and cooperation with the private sector; research on illicit financial flows associated with wildlife crime and cooperation with Financial Intelligence Units and the private sector; CITES implementation and reporting; and identification of species and derivatives. This indicates alignment between the outputs of this project and regional needs. As recipients of the future regional trade assessment and focal points facilitating regional cooperation, SAWEN and Interpol advised of information gaps they felt it would be important to address in the future regional trade assessment. This paves the way for implementation of activity 4.1 in years 2 and 3.

As per activity 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5, two technical briefings were published and disseminated ahead of CITES SC78; one with recommendations on tigers, leopards and pangolins and one specifically on trade of Asian big cats (including tigers and leopards) in China (see supporting documents 10 and 11). EIA participated in CITES SC78 in February 2025, briefing the Indian delegation ahead of and during the meeting, as well as other aligned Parties present (UK, US, EU Commission). During this reporting period Greenhood Nepal published a policy brief to raise awareness of domestic and international trade of bears from Nepal. While this was funded under another project it supports Output 4 and the information is transferrable to the regional trade assessment in preparation under this project (see supporting document 12).

Overall, our project indicators are still relevant, our assumptions for the project hold true and we do not foresee obstacles to reporting against the Standard Indicators.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: A comprehensive ‘Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment’ produced, with recommendations for enforcement action in trade and cross-border hotspots and in relation to finance and transport sectors and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies and policymakers.

1.1 At least 6 trade routes mapped by end of year 1, with updates made to mapped routes by end of Year 2. **[IWTCF-B06]**

As detailed above in question 3.1, progress has been made towards the trade assessment through the collation and analysis of information from multiple sources against a draft assessment framework. This is an ongoing activity through year 2 as additional and new information from the partners institutional knowledge and databases is added along with information generated by ongoing activities under Output 1, 2 and 3.

Thirteen trade routes have been identified and mapped thus far but this will be refined as the project progresses. Evidence provided under section 3.1

1.2 At least 4 supply and value chain and illicit financial flow analyses by end of Year 2. **[Project’s own indicator]**

This indicator is planned for year 2

1.3 The finalised Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment is presented to at least 6 national law enforcement bodies and 3 intergovernmental bodies by end of Q1 Year 3. **[Project's own indicator]**

This indicator is planned for the end of year 2 and the beginning of year 3.

Output 1 is on track to be achieved by the end of the project.

Output 2: Intelligence to support IWT law enforcement operations gathered, analysed and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies.

2.1 At least 1 criminal network identified and mapped by end of Year 2 and a further 2 by end of project (3 in total; disaggregated by local, national, and/or trans-national networks). **[IWTCF-B06]**

This indicator is planned for year 2 of the project.

2.2 At least 12 arrests in Y 1 and 20 arrests in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project per year (52 by project end). **[IWTCF-B10]**

2.3 At least 3 intelligence/information reports exchanged with SAWEN, INTERPOL and UNODC by project end. **[IWTCF-B19]**

This indicator is planned for years 2 and 3 of the project.

2.4 At least 10 intelligence/information reports exchanged with national law enforcement agencies per year (30 by project end) **[Project's own indicator]**

Output 3: CSO (Nepal) and government (India and Nepal) capacity to counter wildlife trafficking enhanced.

3.1 Greenhood Nepal's IWT database established and functioning by the end of Year 2 and is being used to inform law enforcement strategy and priorities by project end. **[IWTCF-B23]**

As described above in 3.1, much progress towards this indicator has been achieved. The database structure has been determined and the SharePoint lists where data will be stored have been produced. The development of the data entry form in PowerApp is progressing well. Baseline data collection from the 13 target districts has also taken place. Evidence provided is in supporting folder 2.

3.2 Front-line officials (100 in Yr 1 and 200 per year in Yrs 2 and 3) from State Forest and Police Departments, Special Task Forces, and other border manning agencies are trained in law enforcement, including in advanced techniques for ground investigation, evidence collection, documentation, and prosecution (500 by project end). **[IWTCF-B01]**

As reported above in section 3.1, WPSI conducted two law enforcement trainings for front line staff in the State of Uttar Pradesh (covering two critical Tiger Reserves that are known poaching/trade hotspots) in March 2025. A total of 107 Forest Department staff attended these trainings with ~15% women attendance in one workshop and ~9% in the other. Evidence provided to support in folder 3.

3.3 Two Greenhood Nepal OSINT trainers are trained, and a Nepali language OSINT guide produced, by end of year 2 (Project's own indicator)

As reported above in 3.1, three Greenhood staff have partaken in the first of two planned OSINT trainings and there is monthly communication and mentoring between Greenhood and EIA staff. Evidence is referenced in section 3.1. Training of trainers and the production of a Nepali language OSINT guide is planned for year 2.

Output 4: Regional enforcement cooperation encouraged between India, Nepal, and China including through implementation of CITES Resolutions and associated Decisions.

4.1 At least 1 policy framework (CITES Resolutions/Decisions) formally contributed to by the project and being implemented by appropriate authorities, by project end. [IWTCF-B21]

This indicator is planned for years 2 and 3 of the project.

4.2 At least 2 publications (technical briefings and public reports) produced per year, and a total of 8 by project end. [IWTCF-D13]

As described under 3.1 above, two technical briefings were published and disseminated ahead of CITES SC78, one with recommendations on tigers, leopards and pangolins, and one focussing on trade of Asian big cats (including tigers and leopards) in China. Evidence provided are supporting documents 10 and 11.

4.3 At least 2 workshops organised by intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), during which information generated by the project feeds into operational planning, by project end. (Projects own indicator)

This indicator is planned for years 2 and 3 of the project. Interpol have advised a tentative timeframe for a regional meeting in late 2025 and that we would be invited to give a presentation.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Enhanced CSO and government capability to address IWT in India and Nepal and increased targeted enforcement in priority trans-Himalayan trade hubs and border areas identified by the project.

0.1. 7 national NGOs and government entities (4 NGOs, 3 Government entities) have improved capacity as a result of the project, by project end. [IWTCF-D03]

By the end of year 1 of the project, one NGO (Greenhood Nepal) and one government entity (the Indian Forest Department in the state of Uttar Pradesh) have improved capacity through participation in OSINT training and enforcement training workshops, respectively. Supporting evidence is referenced in sections 3.1 and 3.2.

0.2. 2 new tools to tackle IWT (Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment and IWT database) developed by project end. [IWTCF-D26]

As described above in sections 3.1 and 3.2, progress towards the Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment and the Greenhood Environmental Crime database are well underway and on target in terms of progress planned and expected in year 1. Supporting evidence is referenced in sections 3.1 and 3.2.

0.3. 2.3 At least 6 wildlife crime cases in Yr 1 and 10 wildlife crime cases per year in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project are registered by national law enforcement agencies each year (26 by project end). [Project's own indicator]

0.4 At least 3 cases facilitated by the project are submitted for prosecution, by project end [IWTCF-B12]

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

1. NGOs and government entities remain interested and committed to being involved in capacity building delivered under this project.

This assumption remains true.

2. Communication channels between project partners and intergovernmental organisations remain open.

This assumption remains true.

3. Project leads to actionable IWT intelligence that facilitates law enforcement operations which result in arrests and proceed to subsequent prosecutions, within the project timeframe.

This assumption has proven to hold true in year 1 as explained above in Question 3 which details enforcement action that has taken place as a result of intelligence disseminated by the project partners.

4. Project operations are not affected by the closing of space for civil society in the project countries.

This assumption remains true to date.

5. Project leads to relevant stakeholders acting upon information.

In year 1, the relevant stakeholders to which information to has been disseminated are law enforcement agencies who acted on 14 leads provided.

6. Agencies ensure adequate resources are available to address crime trends, enforcement, and policy response gaps.

This assumption holds true to date.

7. Recruitment of a Chinese-speaking consultant is successful.

As per approved Change Request (reference N0411), we changed plans around hiring a Chinese-speaking consultant and instead have deployed EIA staff to conduct the relevant research instead.

8. Conditions remain favourable for fieldwork to be undertaken and not impacted by disrupting factors such as deteriorating border security or pandemic related travel restrictions.

To date, this assumption remains true.

9. Project leads to actionable IWT intelligence that facilitates law enforcement operations which result in arrests within the project timeframe.

See response to Assumptions 3 and 5.

10. NGOs and government entities remain interested and committed to being involved in capacity building delivered under this project.

This assumption remains true to date.

11. Participants of capacity building activities continue to be employed in their relevant role.

This assumption remains true to date.

12. Recruitment for OSINT focal point within Greenhood is successful.

Indra Upadhyay has started at Greenhood Nepal; he will be working on OSINT collections.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on illegal wildlife trade and multidimensional poverty reduction

Our desired, long-term impact is ‘thriving populations of tigers, leopards, Asiatic black bears and pangolin species in India and Nepal as a result of reduced pressure from poaching for illicit international trade’. Poaching for trade is a primary threat to the focal species within the project countries. By setting in place enhanced understanding of trade dynamics, providing support to law enforcement, and increasing regional capacity and cooperation this project will fill key gaps to strengthen India and Nepal’s armoury in the battle against IWT, ultimately resulting in positive conservation outcomes for focal species in the longer-term. Our Theory of Change (see supporting document 13) is that cumulative results achieved under the project will ultimately lead to increased and sustained enforcement with enhanced regional cooperation. Enhanced enforcement will sufficiently disrupt trafficking networks which in turn will reduce poaching levels (currently driven by the trafficking networks’ ability to successfully operate). Sufficiently reduced poaching levels will result in reduced overall offtake levels of focal species and positively contribute to species recovery and ultimately increasing populations.

The wildlife trafficking offenders that are convicted in the region are often the poachers and couriers, less so the persons in the higher tiers of criminal networks and trade chains who commission and finance the crimes. During the lifetime of the project, enhanced understanding of Trans-Himalayan trade will be gained (Output 1), plugging critical knowledge and enforcement capacity gaps in India and Nepal specifically which, in the longer-term, we expect to result in higher levels of targeted enforcement and other interventions in key hubs. This includes, targeting, where appropriate, the higher tiers of criminal networks. The dissemination of specific intelligence to national (including China) and regional authorities (Output 2) is expected to result in increased enforcement action during the project lifetime.

Further strengthening capability to tackle IWT, partners will embed an independent and accessible IWT database and enhanced OSINT capability (training of trainers) in Nepal, alongside the delivery of a robust training programme for enforcement officials in India (Output 3).

Improved regional strategic and operational planning for a more joined-up approach to key points in the trade chain will be enhanced over the project lifetime and beyond, with information from the project contributing to deliberations at workshops convened by IGOs, reinforced through strengthened CITES recommendations (Output 4).

Reducing the trade threat to the focal species contributes to the recovery of those species in the wild. The focal species of this project are critical to the healthy function of the ecosystems they inhabit as umbrella and keystone species, ecosystem engineers and pest control. Healthy ecosystems and biodiversity are recognised as critical to human well-being, from the perspective of human and animal health and sustainable development. While this project is not directly engaged in poverty reduction activity, it contributes to nature recovery efforts that benefit people and the planet (for supporting evidence document 14).

4. Thematic focus

The theme to which our project is contributing is ‘strengthening law enforcement’. All our project outputs contribute directly or indirectly to strengthening law enforcement against IWT within the Trans-Himalayan region. The facilitation of enforcement action (notable achievements detailed above in Question 3) and enhanced capacity of frontline officials achieved by the project in year 1 demonstrates our direct contribution. Development of the Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment, OSINT capacity with Nepal, Greenhood’s environmental crime database and encouragement of regional enforcement cooperation will make a clear indirect contribution to the knowledge, capacity and collaboration deployed to address IWT regionally.

5. Impact on species in focus

As described above in Question 3.5, our Theory of Change (supporting document 13) is that cumulative results achieved under the project will ultimately lead to increased and sustained enforcement with enhanced regional cooperation. Enhanced enforcement will sufficiently disrupt trafficking networks which in turn will reduce poaching levels (currently driven by the trafficking networks' ability to successfully operate). Sufficiently reduced poaching levels will result in reduced overall offtake levels of focal species and positively contribute to species recovery and ultimately increasing populations.

6. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

Describe how your project is contributing to a reduction in poverty. When writing this section, consider the following:

The project will contribute to poverty reduction indirectly. Project design drew on the institutional knowledge of the two local partners, including assessment of the motivation of IWT offenders, as well as previous research by EIA on the role of legal and illegal trade actors from China in the region. The project is thus designed to support more targeted enforcement efforts to disrupt the transnational and higher-level players in the trade chain.

Planned field work for year 2 will generate further insights into the different roles of different stakeholders in the trade chain, which will be reflected in the regional trade assessment and other planned outputs in year 2 and 3. These will offer strategic recommendations including, as appropriate, non-traditional measures to counter and deter IWT that take into account any stated motivations of trade stakeholders engaged by the project. This could include measures to avoid inequitable impacts of enforcement.

A component of the project in year 2 includes "train the trainer" training for CSOs and journalists; sharing skills that can be applied by recipients and their extended networks, to conduct open-source intelligence gathering safely and securely. These skills are tools that can be applied to address any environmental or social justice cause.

The existence of thriving populations of focal species is inextricably linked to potential prosperity of people living within and adjacent to landscapes these species inhabit. Linkages are direct, in terms of sustainable conservation-linked livelihood potential if managed well, though over the long-term may only benefit protected area (PA) adjacent communities. Independent research in India and Nepal indicates that wildlife tourism income does flow to PA adjacent communities through employment and the purchase of food, goods and services. It also generates income for higher levels of government from taxation and fees. There are also long-term indirect linkages relating to the benefits of ecosystem services derived from the species themselves and wider biodiversity conservation. This manifests through water security and potentially through climate change mitigation associated with protected area conservation.

For evidence see supporting document 14, which includes evidence of the wider benefits of tiger conservation and an India-specific perspective.

7. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	

Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	X
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

In alignment with a sensitive GESI approach, the project made a concerted effort to ensure the meaningful participation of women frontline staff during the planned enforcement training workshops in India in year 1 of the project. During the two workshops, senior officials from the respective Forest Departments were specifically requested to invite female frontline staff. Additionally, one of the key resource persons, female, helped create a comfortable and welcoming environment for the women attendees. While the turnout was positive—15% women participants in one workshop and 9% in the other—this did not fully meet our target. The primary challenge stemmed from a limited number of women on staff within the Departments, and their availability during the training. Moving forward, we recognise the importance of having woman resource personnel to create an approachable and supportive setting, which will encourage higher female participation in future sessions.

Within the project team there is gender balance and equal opportunity for involvement in different project aspects is ensured.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

Our project Outcome is “Enhanced CSO and government capability to address IWT in India and Nepal and increased targeted enforcement in priority trans-Himalayan trade hubs and border areas identified by the project”. Please see our Theory of Change (supporting document 13) for our four Outputs work in concert to achieve our Outcome and contribute to impact-level changes.

An M&E plan aligned with the logframe was developed as part of our in-person all partner meeting held in Kathmandu in November 2024. All of our project indicators and how they are measured are detailed within the M&E plan which has been provided as supporting document 15.

M&E is a shared responsibility by all partners and each partner collects M&E data related to their specific project elements and responsibilities, with EIA having responsibility for bringing the information together and ensuring communication flows. To support this, we use FileDrop (a feature of SharePoint) to store shared documents and databases. Information is shared amongst partners as part of specific collaborative work, during regular project check-in calls, and, when possible, at in-person project meetings.

9. Lessons learnt

- New illegal trade routes, particularly the emerging Indo-Myanmar route, are showing increasing illegal wildlife trafficking activity. These, along with the Indo-Nepal routes that we will interrogate as part of this project, require further investigation and monitoring.
- From the two training sessions held, we learned the importance of allocating more time for participant engagement during practical exercises. Additionally, planning workshops around the availability and workload of frontline staff is crucial—many were, in all probability, unavailable due to the March year-end closing, when the two trainings were

held. Furthermore, the US funding freeze impacted organisational ability to deliver within the originally planned timescale.

- It has only been few years that the Divisional Forest Offices in Nepal started computer-based record keeping. Therefore, limited data is available in a digital format. Additionally, there are frequent changes of government staff in the offices, and it is a challenge to understand the history of crime in the area as the newly appointed staff get to spend on average two years in a district.
- It is a great challenge to maintain a relationship at Divisional Forest Offices in Nepal due to frequent changes of staff.

10. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

N/a – this is our first annual report

11. Risk Management

No new risks have arisen since the project began on July 1st, 2024, and the project has not made any significant adaptations to the project design to address risks. We have submitted our risk register alongside this report.

12. Scalability and durability

A central project approach is building and embedding counter IWT capacity in Nepal and India, bringing inherent long-term sustainability to the key elements of the project (Outcome Indicators 0.1 & 0.2, Outputs 1 & 3).

Development and dissemination of the Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment will enhance understanding of regional IWT dynamics, thereby contributing to enhanced capability for effective law enforcement in the longer-term, an impact that will deliver beyond the project timeframe. This in part is ensured through initial consultation with regional and national stakeholders and planned ongoing engagement.

Output-3 is a dedicated capability building output, designed to embed sustainable in-country capacity and this has already made significant progress in year 1 with two training sessions delivered for Indian Forest Department Officials and the first OSINT training delivered to Greenhood by EIA. Greenhood's IWT crime incident database continue to be developed into year 2 and be functioning to inform law enforcement strategy and priorities by project end and beyond. Post-project, the database will be owned by Greenhood.

Two OSINT trainers, employed by Greenhood, will be trained under Output-3. They will have delivered training to external stakeholders by project end and, post-project, the trainers will continue to deliver OSINT training to stakeholders nationally.

This project is taking a comprehensive approach to tackling a key, trans-national wildlife trafficking flow. Our approaches entail direct law enforcement support, strengthening understanding of regional trade dynamics and increased cooperation, and embedding long-term, enhanced national capacity to combat IWT. These approaches not only complement and reinforce each other but they deliver immediate action towards time-sensitive issues while also driving towards long-term, post-project impact.

As part of the Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment development, we are and will continue to combine a wealth of data sources including historical information, current information obtained from the field through both covert and overt approaches, and crime statistics and trends. This multifaceted approach can inform other regional trade assessments.

Further, while focal species and geographies bring different challenges at a strategic or operational level, the OSINT techniques can be broadly applicable to not only document IWT along other transnational trafficking routes, but also other nature crimes and crime convergence.

13. IWT Challenge Fund identity

Although the IWT Challenge Fund has not been actively publicised during the implementation project activities in year 1, partners approached government divisions for permissions and data collection which has helped raise awareness of the IWT Challenge Fund. In years 2 and 3 there will be increased opportunity to raise the profile of the IWT Challenge Fund.

14. Safeguarding

15. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (April 2024-March 2025)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2024/25 Grant (£)	2024/25 Total actual IWT Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Others				
TOTAL	199,440.00	190,835.71		

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			Rufford Foundation (Year 1 only) Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			

16. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

N/a.

17. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes.

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds to edit and use the following for various promotional purposes (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

One of the outputs planned under our project will be a trans-Himalayan regional trade assessment. Part of the process of preparing this includes collating open-source information including crime incident and court case records. These can be rich in details about the “who, what, why, when, where and how” of the trade in tigers, leopards, pangolins and bears. Whilst the findings from over 750 records relating to incidents in China we have collated thus far will feed into the assessment, we have also found them very useful in the interim, whilst preparing technical briefings to support more effective implementation of CITES recommendations. Chinese crime incident reports and court judgements reveal continued demand for all of the project’s focal species. To support deliberations at the 78th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee (the body that oversees compliance and enforcement of CITES), we focused in on an analysis of incidents involving tigers and leopards. The CITES Resolution on Asian Big Cats urges actions by consumer countries to reduce demand, including closing domestic markets that contribute to poaching or illegal trade. Data gathered under this project illustrates that persistent and unchecked demand in China continues to drive poaching and trafficking in other range states, including in south Asia. The briefing also serves as a critical reminder of the need for greater regional enforcement cooperation.

A copy of the briefing is available as supporting document 11, and is also available at <https://eia-international.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-SC78-CITES-BIG-CATS-briefing.pdf> For a high resolution image of a leopard or tiger for illustration purposes, we can recommend approaching www.tigersintheforest.co.uk

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption including description, country and credit	Social media accounts and websites to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2024-2025

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2024 - March 2025	Actions required/planned for next period
Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thriving populations of Tiger, Leopard, Asiatic black bear and Chinese and Indian pangolin in India and Nepal as a result of reduced pressure from poaching for illicit international trade. 	In the time available, the project has strengthened relationships with national law enforcement, SAWEN and Interpol. Law enforcement in India has responded to information provided by project partners, contributing to disruption of trafficking of the focal species. Gaps and challenges identified by law enforcement officials in the region have been shared with project partners so that outputs generated by the project can help address those. (*There were delays to the grant award, finally confirmed in September 2024)	
Outcome Enhanced CSO and government capability to address IWT in India and Nepal and increased targeted enforcement in priority trans-Himalayan trade hubs and border areas identified by the project.		
Outcome indicator 0.1 7 national NGOs and government entities (4 NGOs, 3 Government entities) have improved capacity as a result of the project, by project end. [IWTCF-D03]	In year 1, training has taken place with the Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh and with Greenhood Nepal covering wildlife crime enforcement and OSINT, respectively. Therefore, one NGO and one government entity so far have improved capacity as a result of the project. Evidence is referenced in section 3.	Additional training (training of OSINT trainers) within Greenhood Nepal and also enforcement training with an additional 200 Indian frontline officials is planned for year 2.
Outcome indicator 0.2 2 new tools to tackle IWT (Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment and IWT database) developed by project end. [IWTCF-D26]	Both the Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment and Greenhoods Environmental Crime database are under development and have progressed as planned in year 1. Evidence is referenced in section 3.	Development of both tools is planned to be completed by the end of year 2.
Outcome indicator 0.3 At least 6 wildlife crime cases in Yr 1 and 10 wildlife crime cases per year in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project are registered by national law enforcement agencies each year (26 by project end). [Project's own indicator]		Investigation and law enforcement support will be ongoing throughout the project term
Outcome indicator 0.4 At least 3 cases facilitated by the project are submitted for prosecution, by project end [IWTCF-B12]		Investigation and law enforcement support will be ongoing throughout the project term

Output 1 A comprehensive ‘Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment’ produced, with recommendations for enforcement action in trade and cross-border hotspots and in relation to finance and transport sectors and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies and policymakers.		
Output indicator 1.1 At least 6 trade routes mapped by end of year 1, with updates made to mapped routes by end of Year 2. [IWTCF-B06]	13 routes mapped. Evidence is referenced in section 3.1	Additional route mapping planned for year 2
Output indicator 1.2 At least 4 supply and value chain and illicit financial flow analyses by end of Year 2. [Project’s own indicator]	Planned for year 2	Planned for year 2
Output Indicator 1.3 The finalised Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment is presented to at least 6 national law enforcement bodies and 3 intergovernmental bodies by end of Q1 Year 3. [Project’s own indicator]	Planned for year 3	Planned for year 3
Output 2. Intelligence to support IWT law enforcement operations gathered, analysed and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies.		
Output indicator 2.1. At least 1 criminal network identified and mapped by end of Year 2 and a further 2 by end of project (3 in total; disaggregated by local, national, and/or trans-national networks). [IWTCF-B06]	Planned for year 2	Planned for year 2
Output indicator 2.2. 2.2 At least 12 arrests in Y 1 and 20 arrests in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project per year (52 by project end). [IWTCF-B10]		Investigation and law enforcement support will be ongoing throughout the project term
Output Indicator 2.3 At least 3 intelligence/information reports exchanged with SAWEN, INTERPOL and UNODC by project end. [IWTCF-B19]	Planned for years 2 and 3	Planned for years 2 and 3
Output Indicator 2.4 At least 10 intelligence/information reports exchanged with national law enforcement agencies per year (30 by project end) [Project’s own indicator]		Investigation and law enforcement support will be ongoing throughout the project term
Output 3. CSO (Nepal) and government (India and Nepal) capacity to counter wildlife trafficking enhanced.		

Output indicator 3.1 Greenhood Nepal's IWT database established and functioning by the end of Year 2 and is being used to inform law enforcement strategy and priorities by project end. [IWTCF-B23]	The database structure has been determined and the SharePoint lists where data will be stored have been produced. The development of the data entry form in PowerApp progressing well. Baseline data collection from the 13 target districts has also taken place. Evidence is referenced in section 3.	The database is planned to be completed by year 2
Output indicator 3.2 Front-line (100 in Yr 1 and 200 per year in Yrs 2 and 3) from State Forest and Police Departments, Special Task Forces, and other border manning agencies are trained in law enforcement, including in advanced techniques for ground investigation, evidence collection, documentation, and prosecution (600 by project end). [IWTCF-B01]	107 Forest Department frontline staff from Uttar Pradesh attended enforcement training (two workshops delivered) in year 1.	It is planned that 200 frontline staff will participate in training in year 2
Output indicator 3.3 Two Greenhood Nepal OSINT trainers are trained, and a Nepali language OSINT guide produced, by end of year 2 (Project's own indicator)	3 Greenhood staff have participated in in the first of two planned OSINT trainings and there is monthly communication and mentoring between Greenhood and EIA staff. Evidence is referenced in section 3.1.	Training of trainers and the production of a Nepali language OSINT guide is planned for year 2.
Output indicator 3.4 The Two OSINT trainers trained have delivered further training to at least three additional organisations (journalistic, CSO and government authorities) by end of project. [IWTCF-D01]	Planned for year 3	
Output 4. Regional enforcement cooperation encouraged between India, Nepal, and China including through implementation of CITES Resolutions and associated Decisions.		
Output indicator 4.1 At least 1 policy framework (CITES Resolutions/Decisions) formally contributed to by the project and being implemented by appropriate authorities, by project end. [IWTCF-B21]	Planned for year 2 and year 3	Discussions initiated in the lead up to CITES SC78 in Feb 2025 (year 1) regarding draft CoP Decisions and other recommendations will continue in the lead up to and during CITES CoP20 in Nov 2025 (year 2). Implementation and reporting supported in the lead up to CITES SC81in 2026 (dates TBD)
Output indicator 4.2 At least 2 publications (technical briefings and public reports) produced per year, and a total of 8 by project end. [IWTCF-D13]	2 technical briefings both published. Evidence is referenced in section 3.	

Output indicator 4.3 At least 2 workshops organised by intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), during which information generated by the project feeds into operational planning, by project end. (Projects own indicator)	Anticipated in year 2 and year 3	Interpol have advised most likely to have regional meeting in Sep / Oct 2025
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Annex 2: Project's full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed)

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Thriving populations of Tiger, Leopard, Asiatic black bear and Chinese and Indian pangolin in India and Nepal as a result of reduced pressure from poaching for illicit international trade.			
Outcome: Enhanced CSO and government capability to address IWT in India and Nepal and increased targeted enforcement in priority trans-Himalayan trade hubs and border areas identified by the project.	12.1. 7 national NGOs and government entities (4 NGOs, 3 Government entities) have improved capacity as a result of the project, by project end. [IWTCF-D03] 12.2. 2 new tools to tackle IWT (Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment and IWT database) developed by project end. [IWTCF-D26] 12.3. 2.3 At least 6 wildlife crime cases in Yr 1 and 10 wildlife crime cases per year in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project are registered by national law enforcement agencies each year (26 by project end). [Project's own indicator] 0.4 At least 3 cases facilitated by the project are submitted for prosecution, by project end [IWTCF-B12]	0.1.1 Records of training workshops (attendance lists disaggregated by gender, training materials) and follow-on mentorship. 0.1.2 Post-training evaluation survey. 0.2.1 Assessment document. 0.2.2 Assessment dissemination correspondence. 0.2.3 Database screenshots and visualisations. 0.3.1 Crime incident number (FIR/PoR numbers). 0.4.1 Court case numbers	NGOs and government entities remain interested and committed to being involved in capacity building delivered under this project. Communication channels between project partners and intergovernmental organisations remain open. Project leads to actionable IWT intelligence that facilitates law enforcement operations which result in arrests and proceed to subsequent prosecutions, within the project timeframe. Project operations are not affected by the closing of space for civil society in the project countries.

<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. A comprehensive ‘Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment’ produced, with recommendations for enforcement action in trade and cross-border hotspots and in relation to finance and transport sectors and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies and policymakers.</p>	<p>1.4 At least 6 trade routes mapped by end of year 1, with updates made to mapped routes by end of Year 2. [IWTCF-B06]</p> <p>1.5 At least 4 supply and value chain and illicit financial flow analyses by end of Year 2. [Project’s own indicator]</p> <p>1.6 The finalised Trans-Himalayan Trade Assessment is presented to at least 6 national law enforcement bodies and 3 intergovernmental bodies by end of Q1 Year 3. [Project’s own indicator]</p>	<p>1.1.1 Maps with accompanying narrative.</p> <p>1.1.2 Correspondence with recipients.</p> <p>1.2.1 Analyses reports.</p> <p>1.2.2 Correspondence with recipients.</p> <p>1.6.1 Assessment document.</p> <p>1.6.2 Correspondence with recipients.</p> <p>1.6.3 Presentation participant lists.</p>	<p>Project leads to relevant stakeholders acting upon information.</p> <p>Agencies ensure adequate resources are available to address crime trends, enforcement, and policy response gaps.</p> <p>Recruitment of a Chinese-speaking consultant is successful.</p>
<p>2. Intelligence to support IWT law enforcement operations gathered, analysed and disseminated to relevant national and intergovernmental bodies.</p>	<p>2.1 At least 1 criminal network identified and mapped by end of Year 2 and a further 2 by end of project (3 in total; disaggregated by local, national, and/or trans-national networks). [IWTCF-B06]</p> <p>2.2 At least 12 arrests in Y 1 and 20 arrests in Yrs 2 and 3 facilitated by the project per year (52 by project end). [IWTCF-B10]</p> <p>2.3 At least 3 intelligence/information reports exchanged with SAWEN, INTERPOL and UNODC by project end. [IWTCF-B19]</p> <p>2.4 At least 10 intelligence/information reports exchanged with national law enforcement agencies per year (30 by project end) [Project’s own indicator]</p>	<p>2.1.1 Criminal network charts.</p> <p>2.1.2 Correspondence with recipients.</p> <p>2.2.1 WPSI Crime Database. 2.2.2 Redacted versions of internal record of law enforcement disseminations.</p> <p>2.3.1 Communications with SAWEN, INTERPOL and/or UNODC.</p> <p>2.3.2. Redacted versions of reports disseminated.</p> <p>2.4.1 Correspondence with recipient agencies.</p> <p>2.4.2 Redacted versions of reports disseminated.</p>	<p>Conditions remain favourable for fieldwork to be undertaken and not impacted by disrupting factors such as deteriorating border security or pandemic related travel restrictions.</p> <p>Project leads to actionable IWT intelligence that facilitates law enforcement operations which result in arrests within the project timeframe.</p>
<p>3. CSO (Nepal) and government (India and Nepal) capacity to counter wildlife trafficking enhanced.</p>	<p>3.1 Greenhood Nepal’s IWT database established and functioning by the end of Year 2 and is being used to inform law enforcement strategy and priorities by project end. [IWTCF-B23]</p>	<p>3.1.1 Database screenshots and visualisations.</p> <p>3.1.2 Alerts issued to district authorities.</p>	<p>NGOs and government entities remain interested and committed to being involved in capacity building delivered under this project.</p>

	<p>3.2 Front-line (100 in Yr 1 and 200 per year in Yrs 2 and 3) from State Forest and Police Departments, Special Task Forces, and other border manning agencies are trained in law enforcement, including in advanced techniques for ground investigation, evidence collection, documentation, and prosecution (600 by project end). [IWTCF-B01]</p> <p>3.3 Two Greenhood Nepal OSINT trainers are trained, and a Nepali language OSINT guide produced, by end of year 2 (Project's own indicator)</p> <p>3.4 The Two OSINT trainers trained have delivered further training to at least three additional organisations (journalistic, CSO and government authorities) by end of project. [IWTCF-D01]</p>	<p>3.2.1. Records of training workshops including details of specific agencies and roles of attendees (attendance lists disaggregated by gender)</p> <p>3.2.2. Training materials</p> <p>3.3.1 Records of training (attendance lists disaggregated by gender), training materials.</p> <p>3.3.2 Nepali OSINT guide</p> <p>3.4.1. Records of further training delivered (attendance lists disaggregated by gender, training materials).</p>	<p>Participants of capacity building activities continue to be employed in their relevant role.</p> <p>Recruitment for OSINT focal point within Greenhood is successful.</p>
<p>4. Regional enforcement cooperation encouraged between India, Nepal, and China including through implementation of CITES Resolutions and associated Decisions.</p>	<p>4.1 At least 1 policy framework (CITES Resolutions/Decisions) formally contributed to by the project and being implemented by appropriate authorities, by project end. [IWTCF-B21]</p> <p>4.2 At least 2 publications (technical briefings and public reports) produced per year, and a total of 8 by project end. [IWTCF-D13]</p> <p>4.3 At least 2 workshops organised by intergovernmental organisations (IGOs), during which information generated by the project feeds into operational planning, by project end. (Projects own indicator)</p>	<p>4.1.1 Interventions and technical briefings submitted to CITES Parties.</p> <p>4.1.2 Correspondence with CITES MAs and other relevant government authorities.</p> <p>4.2.1 Technical briefings and public reports.</p> <p>4.3 Correspondence between partners and IGOs</p>	<p>Parties implement policies and frameworks that they have adopted.</p> <p>Political will is mobilised through increased public awareness and public calls to action.</p> <p>IGOs continue to receive funding to convene workshops of regional national law enforcement agencies</p>

Activities

Output 1

- 1.1. Conduct desk-based investigations to gain snapshots of “who, what, where, how, why and when” of IWT in focal species in Nepal, India and China.
- 1.2. Conduct field missions in India and the India-Nepal border region and utilise informant networks to identify and engage with persons of interest.
- 1.3. Maintain existing independent wildlife crime databases.
- 1.4. Research the role of transnational criminal networks in wildlife crime at the Nepal-China end of the trade chain, research overlap with wildlife business community.
- 1.5. Based on 1.4, produce a crime script of stakeholders’ roles in IWT in focal species and a value/supply chain analysis.
- 1.6. Draw on findings from 1.1 – 1.5 prepare and disseminate a regional assessment of trans-Himalayan trade.
- 1.7. Share assessment including recommendations with national law enforcement, policymakers, SAWEN, Interpol and UNODC.

Output 2

- 2.1 See activities 1.1 & 1.2.
- 2.2 Transcribe, translate, consolidate, and analyse information generated by desk and field research to update and produce:
 - i. profiles of persons of interest and corporate profiles of companies involved;
 - ii. intelligence reports on relationships between individuals, companies and crime incidents;
 - iii. maps of routes and hotspots.
- 2.3 Share results from 2.2 securely between project partners.
- 2.4 Verify and share actionable leads on wildlife crime in real time with regional authorities, to facilitate enforcement action and curb wildlife crimes.
- 2.5 Prepare and disseminate intelligence analysis outputs (profiles, criminal network maps) to national law enforcement.

Output 3:

- 3.1 EIA and Greenhood Nepal collaborate (via two dedicated trips and remote mentoring) for design and development of an accessible, interactive IWT database.
- 3.2 Greenhood Nepal to collate and input crime incident records into the new database.
- 3.3 Greenhood Nepal to prepare and disseminate queries on the wildlife crime incident database to provide insights and recommendations to district-level and central-level officials.
- 3.4 WPSI develop and execute IWT training programmes for law enforcement officials in Northern India (200 people per year via four workshops per year)
- 3.5 EIA Provide OSINT training of trainers to Greenhood Nepal (via two dedicated trips and ongoing remote mentoring).
- 3.6 An OSINT guide in Nepali language is produced.
- 3.7 Greenhood Nepal provide OSINT training to at least three other organisations, including CSOs, journalists and officials (CITES, Police, Forest Officials) in Nepal.

Output 4:

- 4.1 Contribute to SAWEN and Interpol regional workshops for national law enforcement agencies by sharing findings.
- 4.2 Use information generated under outputs 1 and 2 to prepare technical inputs to CITES processes regarding implementation of relevant Resolutions and associated Decisions.
- 4.3 Engagement with relevant national governments to encourage submissions and interventions strengthening CITES recommendations for focal species.
- 4.4 Participate in CITES meetings and disseminate briefings containing *inter alia* information generated from activities under outputs 1 and 2.

4.5 Produce and disseminate public facing communications to raise awareness and to encourage government action.

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, scheme, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the subject line.	No
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please consider the best way to submit. One zipped file, or a download option is recommended. We can work with most online options and will be in touch if we have a problem accessing material. If unsure, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the subject line.	Yes
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
Have you provided an updated risk register? If you have an existing risk register you should provide an updated version alongside your report. If your project was funded prior to this being a requirement, you are encouraged to develop a risk register.	Yes
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 17)?	N/a
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	